

Please amend claims 3, 4, 6-9, 12, 14, 16 and 18 as follows:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2] wherein said starch is a non-cereal starch [containing] consisting essentially of [only] amylopectin molecules.--

A1 --4. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 3] wherein said starch is derived from a genetically modified plant.

Doesn't  
necess  
change  
starch, as  
it might be  
for anything.

6. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 5] wherein said starch is [a] cross-linked [starch, such as a phosphorus oxytrichloride or sodium trimataphosphate].--

7. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 6] wherein said starch is a stabilised starch [, such as a hydroxyalkylated or acelyated starch].--

againt  
what?  
see  
clm 29

A2 --8. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 7] wherein said starch is an instant starch.--

--9. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 8] wherein said foodstuff comprises at least 0.1(w/w)%, preferably at least 0.5 (w/w)%, more preferably at least 1 (w/w)% of a sodium salt.

A3 --12. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 8] wherein said foodstuff comprises at least 0.5 (w/w)%, preferably at least 1 (w/w)% of a milk protein or derivative thereof.

--14. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 8]

A4 wherein said foodstuff comprises at least 0.5 (w/w)%, preferably at least 1 (w/w)% of a calcium salt.

found naturally  
in casein  
milk proteins

--16. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 8]

A5 wherein said foodstuff comprises at least 5 (w/w)%, preferably at least 10 (w/w)%, more preferably at least 20 (w/w)% of a sugar.

A6 --18. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 17]

wherein said foodstuff is a meat brine.

such as  
chicken  
broth

Please add new claims ~~21-42~~ as follows:

21. A method according to claim 1 wherein said starch is selected from the group consisting of phosphorus oxytrichloride or sodium trimetaphosphate. salt ?

22. A method according to claim 1 wherein ~~in~~ said starch is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyalkylated or acetylated starch. delete

23. A modified starch wherein said starch is salt stable.

A7 24. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is a non-cereal starch consisting essentially of amylopectin molecules.

25. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is derived from a

genetically modified ~~plant~~ <sup>plant</sup>.

26. A modified starch according to claim 25 wherein said plant is a potato.

27. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is cross-linked.

28. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is phosphorus oxytrichloride or sodium trimat<sup>etc</sup>ophosphate. *crosslinked by* */sp.*

29. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is stabilised. *sp.* *112 against what? already salt stable (also claim 7-)*

30. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is hydroxyalkylated or acetylated.

31. A modified starch according to claim 23 wherein said starch is an instant starch.

32. A foodstuff comprising a modified starch according to claim 23.

33. A foodstuff according to claim 32 further comprising at least 0.1(w/w)%, preferably at least 0.5 (w/w)%, more preferably at least 1 (w/w)% of a sodium salt.

34. A foodstuff according to claim 32 wherein said salt is sodium chloride.

35. A foodstuff according to claim 32 wherein said salt is sodium monoglutamate. *more Na glutamate?*

36. A foodstuff according to claim 32 further comprising at least 0.5 (w/w)%, preferably at least 1 (w/w)% of a milk protein or derivative thereof.

37. A foodstuff according to claim 36 wherein said milk protein or derivative thereof is caseine.

38. A foodstuff according to claim 32 further comprising at least 0.5 (w/w)%, preferably at least 1 (w/w)% of a calcium salt.

39. A foodstuff according to claim 38 wherein said calcium salt is calcium chloride.

40. A foodstuff according to claim 32 further comprising at least 5 (w/w)%, preferably at least 10 (w/w)%, more preferably at least 20 (w/w)% of a sugar.

41. A foodstuff according to claim 40 wherein said sugar is sucrose.

42. A foodstuff according to claim 1 wherein said foodstuff is a meat brine.

#### AFTER THE CLAIMS

Please insert, after the ~~claims~~, on a separate sheet: